

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the careful consideration given to this application. Reconsideration and allowance are now respectfully requested in view of the amendment above and the following remarks. Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 9-15 and 21-23 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 15 are independent claims. Claims 1, 15, 22 and 23 are amended. Claims 2, 4, 7, 8 and 19-21 were previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 16-18 were previously withdrawn.

Summary of Examiner Interview

Initially, Applicants wish to thank Examiner Comstock for his time during the telephonic interview of September 11, 2009, the contents of which are summarized below. During the interview, Applicants' representative agreed to address outstanding issues regarding the claim language. The claims have, therefore, been amended as provided in the interview summary.

Claim Objections

Claims 22 and 23 are objected to because of informalities. Claims 22 and 23 have been amended to overcome the objection. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the objections to claims 22 and 23 be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 9-15, 22 and 23 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1 and 15 are amended to overcome the rejection. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 9-15, 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §112 be withdrawn.

Disclaimer

Applicants may not have presented all possible arguments or have refuted the characterizations of either the claims or the prior art as found in the Office Action. However, the lack of such arguments or refutations is not intended to act as a waiver of such arguments or as concurrence with such characterizations.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, consideration and allowance are respectfully solicited.

In the event the Examiner believes an interview might serve in any way to advance the prosecution of this application, the undersigned is available at the telephone number noted below.

The Office is authorized to charge any necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 22-0185.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21547-00283-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: September 22, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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